

Attorney Docket No.: DC-0261US.NP  
Inventors: Foote and Yeo  
Serial No.: 10/553,585  
Filing Date: January 13, 2006  
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**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-3 (canceled).

Claim 4 (currently amended): A method for detecting cardiac ischemia in an individual suspected of suffering from ischemic cardiovascular disease comprising:

- a) measuring a level of a natriuretic peptide in picograms of natriuretic peptide per milliliter of blood in a first blood sample from an individual suspected of suffering from ischemic cardiovascular disease;
- b) subjecting the individual to an exercise stress test with myocardial perfusion imaging wherein a dual isotope, rest-stress protocol is used;
- c) measuring a level of the natriuretic peptide in picograms of natriuretic peptide per milliliter of blood in a second blood sample from the individual immediately after completion of the exercise stress test; and
- d) comparing the actual picogram per milliliter of blood levels of the natriuretic peptide in the first and second blood samples wherein an increase

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in the actual picrogram per milliliter of blood  
level of the natriuretic peptide in the second  
blood sample as compared to the first blood sample  
of as small as 9 picrograms per milliliter of blood  
is indicative of cardiac ischemia in the  
individual.